



State of Utah

Department of
Environmental Quality

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NEWS RELEASE

Wednesday, April 1

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Water Quality Director, DEQ

USU Associate Dean Honored for Water Quality Work

Salt Lake City, Utah – Utah State University (USU) Associate Dean of Natural Resources Nancy Mesner is the recipient of this year's Calvin K. Sudweeks Water Quality Award for her educational work to raise awareness of water quality issues throughout Utah.

Mesner, a tenured professor and USU Extension Water Quality Specialist, was nominated for the prestigious 2009 Sudweeks award for assisting communities in complying with environmental regulations, and in shaping the K-12 educational systems that give students hands-on activities to understanding water quality issues.

The award will be presented at the Utah Water Environmental Association's annual meeting in St. George today (April 1).

"Nancy has developed this exemplary extension program while also maintaining an active research program in the influence of land use on water quality and in teaching courses on Oceanography and Water Quality and pollution," said Walt Baker, director of the Division of Water Quality. "As part of the Western Regional Water Quality Extension Team, she has become well known for her expertise, good humor, and high energy in both the regional and national water quality programs."

Every year the Water Quality board recognizes an individual who has shown outstanding leadership in the field of water quality. The award is named for a former state water quality director who was instrumental in leading Utah through dramatic changes in water quality, including improved means of wastewater treatment and the development of protective standards.

Mesner, a Cache Valley resident, has motivated students and teachers through such programs as "Utah Stream Science," and "Utah Lake Watch." She has worked for USU since 1999.

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